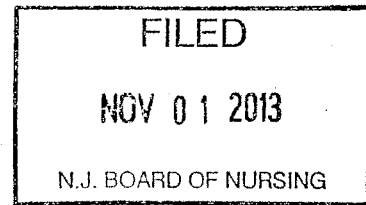


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :	Administrative Action
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :	
:	
HEIDI GERHARDT, R.N. :	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
LICENSE # NO 10721800 :	OF LICENSE
:	
:	
TO PRACTICE AS A :	
REGISTERED NURSE (R.N.) IN THE :	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (" Board") upon the receipt of information indicating the following;

1. Respondent, Heidi Gerhardt, is the holder of License No. NO 10721800 and is a registered nurse in the State of New Jersey.

2. Respondent entered into a private letter agreement with the Board, which she signed on or about March 10, 2013. (Exhibit A) The agreement required respondent to enroll in the Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP), undergo evaluation and monitoring, agree to follow recommendations by RAMP for further treatment, and to refrain from the use of any and all potentially addictive substances. (Exhibit A, ¶¶2, 6, and 10.) The agreement was to have the force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4. In the event that the Board received reliable information that respondent had acted in violation of the RAMP contract and/or the agreement, the agreement was no longer to remain confidential.

3. In a communication dated June 28, 2013, a RAMP case manager advised the Board that respondent was noncompliant with her RAMP contract. (Exhibit B)

4. On or about September 23, 2013, a letter issued by overnight and regular mail to respondent at her address of record, advising respondent that the Board had received credible information indicating that she was not in compliance with the private letter agreement, and advising her to forward within five days any proof that she was currently in compliance with RAMP. (Exhibit C)

6. Respondent forwarded a response dated September 27, 2013, which indicated that she had not signed a new contract with

RAMP, and indicated that towards the end of June of 2013 she viewed a message indicating that she was not required to check in with RAMP. (Exhibit D)

7. A certification from RAMP's Director dated October 17, 2013 indicated that Ms. Gerhardt tested positive for alcohol following drug screens on March 22, 2013 and April 11, 2013, and indicated multiple missed drug screens prior to late June of 2013. The conduct cited by RAMP predated respondent's receipt of any message indicating she was not required to check in with RAMP. (Exhibit E)

8. The conduct cited by RAMP, including missing drug screens and testing positive for alcohol on two occasions (indicating ingestion of alcohol) constitutes a violation of the private letter agreement signed by respondent.

9. The private letter agreement signed by respondent provided for automatic suspension of respondent's nursing license upon receipt of reliable information indicating that respondent has violated any term of the private letter agreement. (Exhibit A, ¶13)

Accordingly,

IT IS on this 1st day of November, 2013

HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey shall be and hereby is suspended for her violation

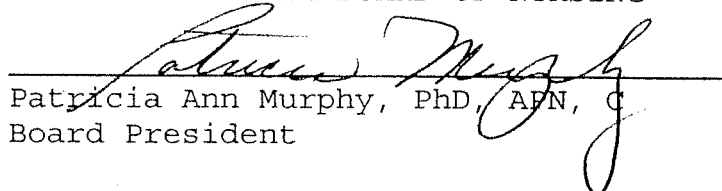
of the private letter agreement, which is deemed a violation of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

2. Respondent may, under the terms of the private letter agreement, upon notice, request a hearing on the sole issue of whether respondent has failed to comply with the terms of the private letter agreement.

3. In the event that respondent seeks reinstatement of her New Jersey nursing license at any future time, the Board shall not entertain any application for reinstatement without respondent's demonstrating that she is in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the private letter agreement and with any agreement with RAMP.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN, C
Board President